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Letter dated 31 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the recent killings of civilians in Burundi issued on 27 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**
Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

* A/54/150.

99-25417 (E) 030999 030999

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the recent killings of civilians in Burundi issued on 27 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union deplores the recent clashes between the army and the rebels, which have resulted in very many civilian victims. The Union is very concerned at the reprisals taken against civilians following these clashes. In particular, it calls on the Government of Burundi to work in close collaboration with observers from the united Nations Human Rights Office, and to set up an internal inquiry to establish any responsibility of the members of the army involved and to bring the latter to justice. The Union draws the attention of the Government of Burundi to the fragility of the final phases of the Arusha peace process and to the dangers that such incidents represent for this process.

The Countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with the European Union, Cyprus and Malta, which are also associated countries, and the countries of the European Free Trade Association which are members of the European Economic Area support this declaration.